

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-12 DEAE-00 SNM-05 EB-08 TRSE-00  
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3951  
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, TH  
SUBJECT: KRIANGSAK POLICY STATEMENT PRESENTED TO NATIONAL  
ASSEMBLY

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SUMMARY. THE KRIANGSAK GOVERNMENT'S  
BASIC POLICY STATEMENT WAS PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DECEMBER 1 AND APPROVED WITHOUT  
OPPOSITION. THE POLICY OBJECTIVES AS DESCRIBED BELOW ARE  
PROGRESSIVE IN TONE AND CONSTITUTE A PLATFORM WITH WHICH MOST  
THAI POLITICIANS COULD EASILY IDENTIFY. THE MAIN THRUST  
OF THE GOVERNMENT STATEMENT IS FOR INCREASED ATTENTION TO  
THE NEEDS OF THE RURAL AREAS AND THE LOW INCOME SECTOR.  
END SUMMARY.

1. IN A TRACT THAT COULD EASILY BE ADOPTED BY MIDDLE-  
OF-THE-ROAD AND MODERATELY LEFT-OF-CENTER POLITICIANS IN  
THAILAND, PRIME MINISTER KRIANGSAK PRESENTED TO THE  
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DECEMBER 1 HIS GOVERNMENT'S  
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BASIC POLICY OBJECTIVES. THE POLICY STATEMENT HAD BEEN  
DISTRIBUTED IN ADVANCE BUT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A FEW  
VEILED CRITICAL QUESTIONS, ELICITED LITTLE DISCUSSION  
AND WAS APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION.

2. ESSENTIALLY DIVIDED INTO THREE PARTS -  
SECURITY, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY - THE STATEMENT

OUTLINES AMBITIOUS GOVERNMENT GOALS WITH A GOOD DEAL OF EMPHASIS ON PROBLEMS FACED BY THE RURAL THAI. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT.

3. SECURITY. IN ORDER TO PROMOTE STABILITY AND NATIONAL UNITY, THE GOVERNMENT WILL ENCOURAGE, THROUGH EDUCATION AND PRACTICE, UNDERSTANDING OF THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. PARTICIPATION IN AND EXPRESSION OF OPINIONS ABOUT THE ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY WILL BE ENCOURAGED. IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONDUCT AN INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY DESIGNED TO PRESERVE THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE COUNTRY. IT WILL PROMOTE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES IRRESPECTIVE OF IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES, PARTICULARLY WITH THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES OF VIETNAM, CAMBODIA, LAOS AND BURMA. CLOSE RELATIONS AND CO-OPERATION WITH ASEAN PARTNERS WILL BE PROMOTED AS WILL MEASURES TO MAKE SOUTHEAST ASIA A ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY. ON THE MILITARY SIDE, THE GOVERNMENT WILL STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE DEFENSE FORCES AND PROMOTED THE DOMESTIC PRODUCTION OF ARMS. IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE INSURGENTS, THE STATEMENT IDENTIFIES POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AS THE PRINCIPAL TOOLS, WITH THE ARMED FORCES USED ONLY FOR SUPPORT. IN PROMOTING LAW AND ORDER, THE LAW WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED. SUPPRESSION OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NARCOTICS TRADE WILL BE CARRIED OUT "DRASTICALLY AND WITHOUT PAUSE". THE GOVERNMENT WILL MOVE AGAINST CORRUPTION AND WILL REFORM THE STRUCTURE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

4. ECONOMIC POLICY. RECOGNIZING THE DIFFICULTIES ARISING FROM COMMODITY PRICES, DROUGHT AND FLOODS, THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES THE DECENTRALIZATION OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR PROJECTS IN THE MOST AFFECTED AREAS. IT INTENDS TO INTRODUCE MEASURES TO PROMOTE EXPORTS, MAINTAIN PRICES OF ESSENTIAL GOODS AND EXPEDITE MEASURES TO FIND JOBS FOR THE UNEMPLOYED. THE GOVERNMENT WILL EMPHASIZE INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND PROMOTE LABOR INTENSIVE AND EXPORT ORIENTED INDUSTRIES. IN THE AREAS OF COMMUNICATIONS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL EXPEDITE THE DEEP SEA PORT PROJECT AT LAEM CHABANG, DEVELOP A SECOND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND IMPROVE MASS TRANSIT SYSTEMS. THE GOVERNMENT WILL "ENSURE FAIR RETURNS AND JOB SECURITY FOR FARMERS AND LABORERS," PURSUE LAND REFORM AND ADJUST TAXES TO PROMOTE INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT. IT PROMISES TO DISSOLVE OR SELL PUBLIC STATE ENTERPRISES WHICH ARE INEFFICIENT OR

DUPLICATIVE.

5. SOCIAL POLICY. UNDER THE HEADING OF SOCIAL POLICY, THE GOVERNMENT PROMISES TO SET UP ADMINISTRATIVE, TAX AND LABOR COURTS, A MORE EQUITABLE PAROLE SYSTEM AND PROVIDE QUICKER TRIALS. GOVERNMENT WILL CONCENTRATE ON BETTER HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE RURAL AREAS, INCLUDING HOSPITALS, MATERNITY CLINICS, DOCTORS AND SPECIALISTS. THE POOR WILL BE GIVEN FREE MEDICAL TREATMENT. MOBILE UNITS WILL BE SENT TO REMOTE AREAS REGULARLY. VILLAGE MEDICAL COLUNTEERS WILL BE TRAINED. FAMILY PLANNING WILL BE PROMOTED, AND DRUG ADDICTS WILL BE PROVIDED TREATMENT SERVICES. THE STATEMENT PROMISES EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL. EQUALITY OF STANDARDS  
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IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS WILL BE ENSURED. IN ORDER TO EDUCATE THE PEOPLE ABOUT DEMOCRACY AND ENSURE FAIR ELECTIONS, EXPERTS WILL BE SENT TO TALK TO THE PEOPLE. VILLAGE COUNCILS WILL PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND HANDLING LOCAL PROBLEMS.

6. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. KRIANGSAK HAS PRESENTED AN AMBITIOUS AND PROGRESSIVE PROGRAM WITH WHICH FEW COULD FIND SERIOUS FAULT. IT ADDRESSES THE SHORT TERM AND LONG TERM PROBLEMS FACING THE COUNTRY. IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT EVEN FOR A DULY ELECTED, DEMOCRATIC ADMINISTRATION TO COME UP WITH A BETTER POLITICAL STATEMENT. OF COURSE, MAKING THE STATEMENT IS THE EASY PART. ACHIEVING SUCH OBJECTIVES WILL BE WELL BEYOND THE REACH OF THE KRIANGSAK CABINET IN THE SHORT TERM, PARTICULARLY AS KRIANGSAK HAS DESCRIBED HIS GOVERNMENT AS REMAINING IN OFFICE ONLY UNTIL THE PERMANENT CONSTITUTION IS DRAFTED AND GENERAL ELECTIONS HELD.  
O'DONOHUE

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## Message Attributes

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